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ABSTRACT

Directed to teachers, paraprofessionals, parents, and others interested in giving a young child an early start on the 3 Rs, this book provides easy-to-follow instructions for promoting emergent literacy and for teaching reading, writing, and arithmetic from preschool into the primary grades. The progression of content extends from early preparation for the 3 Rs to enrichment of the basics in kindergarten and primary grades. The book details individualized techniques for direct teaching and specific instructions for using the oral approach, including scripts for teachers. The chapters in Unit 1 explain how to foster young children's growth toward emergent literacy by immersing them in the oral language of the 3 Rs, using "arithme-talk" to develop concepts, reading aloud, preparing them for phonics, providing a print-rich environment, and demonstrating and talking about writing. Unit 2 chapters give procedures for helping a beginner take the first steps into the 3 Rs, including teaching them 4 words, helping them write a personalized storybook or number book, connecting familiar initial letters with their sounds, and using child-selected words for teaching more phonics. Chapters in Unit 3 offer strategies for expanding and varying the early teaching of reading, writing, and arithmetic, including the use of software, using children's books to introduce math, starting a word wall, teaching the whole alphabet, and stimulating new areas of language development. Unit 4 chapters suggest ways to smooth the transition into the primary grades for early learners, including strengthening "when" and "where" concepts, playing arithmetic games, using phonics for writing and reading, presenting high-frequency words in age-appropriate ways, and using the library. Each unit contains unit previews, overviews, summaries, and a list of references. (KB)

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